

Planning/NEPA Forum: Connected Actions Prework, Part 4

Instructions: Read the following scenarios and answer True or False to each one. The answers and reasoning will be provided during the broadcast.

Scenario 1: The BLM will prepare an EIS to analyze a right-of-way (ROW) application for a 600-mile long, 24-inch diameter interstate oil pipeline. This pipeline will carry oil products from a refinery on private land in Wyoming to a distribution terminal on private land in New Mexico. Upstream of the refinery, a developing system of 4- and 6-inch diameter gathering pipelines (crossing federal and private lands) delivers crude oil to the refinery from wells on a mix of federal, state, and private lands.

True or False - - both the gathering pipeline system and the wells on federal lands are connected actions to the 24-inch diameter pipeline and must be analyzed in the EIS.

Scenario 2: As part of a proposed wind energy facility, a 29-mile long 230 kV transmission line must be constructed to connect the wind farm to the existing electric utility grid. There are no alternative routes for the transmission line except across public land.

True or False - - The 230 KV line is a connected action and must be analyzed in the Wind Farm EA.

Scenario 3: The BLM designates a Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA) in its resource management plan (RMP). At various locations in the SRMA, the BLM anticipates developing 60 new camping sites to meet projected recreation demand.

True or False - - The new camping sites are connected actions to the SRMA designation decision and must be analyzed as such in the RMP EIS.